

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Please amend claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 17, 18, 20, 25, 28, 31, 33, 40, 42, 44, 46, 47 and 49 as indicated below (material to be inserted is in underline, material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~).

Please add new claims 52-54.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A printing-fluid container, comprising:
a reservoir configured to hold printing fluid, wherein the reservoir includes a substantially planar front surface and a bottom surface defining a well in a gravitationally low portion of the reservoir; and
a fluid interface on the front surface adjacent the well, wherein the fluid interface is configured to releasably receive a fluid connector to laterally draw printing fluid from the well.
2. (Currently amended) The printing-fluid container of claim 1, wherein the fluid interface includes a septum mounted on the reservoir to receive a horizontally inserted laterally-inserted fluid connector.
3. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 2, wherein the fluid interface further includes a spring member and a plug member, and wherein the spring member yieldably biases the plug member against the septum to create a fluid tight seal.

4. (Currently amended) The printing-fluid container of claim 1, wherein the reservoir includes a bottom surface configured to gravitationally direct printing fluid toward the well.

5. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 4, wherein the bottom surface includes a trough portion that protrudes downwardly from a remaining portion of the bottom surface, and wherein the well is at least partially defined by the trough portion.

6. (Currently amended) The printing-fluid container of claim 1, further comprising an air interface located on the front surface above the fluid interface.

7. (Currently amended) The printing-fluid container of claim 6, wherein the fluid interface and the air interface are vertically aligned on a the substantially planar front surface face of the printing-fluid container.

8. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 1, wherein a cross-sectional area of the reservoir in the well is less than a cross-sectional area of the reservoir above the well.

9. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 8, wherein the cross-sectional area of the reservoir in the well is at most half the cross-sectional area of the reservoir above the well.

10. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 1, wherein the fluid interface and the well are cooperatively configured to deliver printing fluid from the reservoir until such reservoir is at least 90% drained.

11. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 1, wherein the fluid interface and the well are cooperatively configured to leave a volume of stranded printing fluid which is no more than approximately 5% of a volume of the reservoir.

12. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 1, wherein the fluid interface and the well are cooperatively configured to provide for delivery of printing fluid from the reservoir until no more than approximately 2 cubic centimeters of printing fluid remains in the reservoir.

13. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 1, wherein the fluid interface and the well are cooperatively configured to provide for delivery of printing fluid from the reservoir until no more than approximately 1 cubic centimeter of printing fluid remains in the reservoir.

14. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 1, further comprising a free volume of ink held within the reservoir.

15. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 1, further comprising a free volume of preconditioner held within the reservoir.

16. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 1, further comprising a free volume of fixer held within the reservoir.

17. (Currently amended) A printing-fluid container configured for lateral installation in a printing system, the printing-fluid container comprising:

a reservoir configured to hold a printing fluid, the reservoir having a substantially planar front face and a bottom defining a protruding well into which printing fluid collects is gravitationally pulled; and

a fluid interface on the front face and configured to access the reservoir from laterally adjacent the well when the printing-fluid container is installed.

18. (Currently amended) The printing-fluid container of claim 17, wherein the fluid interface includes a septum configured to receive a horizontally laterally inserted fluid connector.

19. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 18, wherein the fluid interface further includes a spring member and a plug member, and wherein the spring member biases the plug member against the septum to create a fluid tight seal when the printing-fluid container is installed.

20. (Currently amended) The printing-fluid container of claim 17, further comprising an air-interface located above the fluid interface on the front face.

21. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 17, wherein a cross-sectional area of the reservoir in the well is less than a cross-sectional area of the reservoir immediately above the well.

22. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 17, further comprising a free volume of ink held within the reservoir.

23. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 17, further comprising a free volume of preconditioner held within the reservoir.

24. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 17, further comprising a free volume of fixer held within the reservoir.

25. (Currently amended) A printing-fluid container, comprising:
a reservoir defining an inner cavity configured to hold a free volume of printing fluid, wherein the free volume of printing fluid has a fluid level that lowers as the printing-fluid container is emptied; and

a fluid interface positioned on an upright face of the reservoir to accommodate draining of the free volume of ink until not more than 10% of the inner cavity contains the free volume of ink, wherein the upright face is substantially planar and extends from a bottom of the reservoir to a top of the reservoir.

26. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 25, wherein the fluid interface is positioned to accommodate draining of the free volume of ink until the free volume of ink occupies not more than 5% of the inner cavity.

27. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 25, wherein the fluid interface is positioned to accommodate draining of the free volume of ink until the free volume of ink occupies not more than 2% of the inner cavity.

28. (Currently amended) A printing-fluid container for installation in a printing system, the printing-fluid container comprising:

means for holding a volume of printing fluid, wherein the means for holding defines a bottom well of reduced cross-sectional area;

means for ~~gravitationally~~ directing printing fluid into the well; and

means for laterally receiving a fluid connector to draw printing fluid from the well.

29. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 28, wherein the bottom well is configured to contain a volume of printing fluid which is less than 10% of a volume of the means for holding.

30. (Original) A printing-fluid container, comprising:

a reservoir configured to hold a free volume of ink, the reservoir including an upright face with a downwardly-extending protrusion; and

a fluid interface positioned on the downwardly-extending protrusion and configured to access the free volume of ink.

31. (Currently amended) The printing-fluid container of claim 30, wherein the fluid interface includes a septum configured to receive a ~~horizontally laterally~~ inserted fluid connector.

32. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 31, wherein the fluid interface further includes a spring member and a plug member, and wherein the spring member yieldably biases the plug member against the septum to create a fluid tight seal.

33. (Currently amended) The printing-fluid container of claim 30, further comprising an air interface located above the fluid interface on the upright face.

34. (Original) A printing-fluid container configured for lateral insertion in a container bay of a printing system, the printing-fluid container comprising:

a leading surface;

a top surface;

a bottom surface;

an air interface positioned on the leading surface proximate the top surface; and

a printing-fluid interface positioned on the leading surface proximate the bottom surface.

35. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 34, wherein the printing-fluid interface is positioned within 10 millimeters of the bottom surface.

36. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 35, wherein the air interface is positioned within 10 millimeters of the top surface.

37. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 34, wherein the printing-fluid interface is positioned within 5 millimeters of the bottom surface.

38. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 37, wherein the air interface is positioned within 5 millimeters of the top surface.

39. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 34, wherein the leading surface includes a downwardly-extending protrusion and the bottom surface defines a downwardly-extending well substantially aligned with the downwardly-extending protrusion, and wherein the printing-fluid interface is positioned on the downwardly-extending protrusion to access the downwardly-extending well.

40. (Currently amended) The printing-fluid interface of claim 39, wherein the downwardly-extending protrusion is horizontally centered between opposite sides on the leading surface.

41. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 39, wherein the printing-fluid interface and the air interface are vertically aligned.

42. (Currently amended) The printing-fluid container of claim 41, wherein the printing fluid interface and the air interface are horizontally centered between opposite sides on the leading surface.

43. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 39, wherein the printing-fluid interface is configured to releasably laterally receive a fluid connector into a position to draw printing fluid from the downwardly-extending well.

44. (Currently amended) The printing-fluid container of claim 34, wherein the printing-fluid interface is horizontally centered between opposite sides in the container bay upon lateral insertion of the container in the container bay.

45. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 34, wherein the printing-fluid interface and the air interface are vertically aligned.

46. (Currently amended) A printing-fluid container configured for lateral insertion in a container bay, the printing-fluid container comprising:

a reservoir defining an inner cavity configured to hold a volume of printing fluid, the reservoir having an upright leading surface with a downwardly-extending protrusion and a bottom surface defining a downwardly-extending well substantially aligned with the downwardly-extending protrusion; and

a fluid interface positioned on the downwardly-extending protrusion and configured to releasably receive a fluid connector into a position to draw printing fluid from the downwardly-extending well, wherein the fluid interface is ~~horizontally~~ centered between opposite sides in the container bay upon insertion of the printing-fluid container in the container bay.

47. (Currently amended) The printing-fluid interface of claim 46, wherein the downwardly-extending protrusion is ~~horizontally~~ centered between opposite sides on the leading surface.

48. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 47, wherein the fluid interface is positioned within 10 millimeters of the bottom surface.

49. (Currently amended) The printing-fluid container of claim 46, wherein the fluid interface includes a ~~horizontal~~ lateral passage through which the fluid connector may pass.

50. (Original) The printing-fluid container of claim 46, wherein the bottom surface includes a slanting portion configured to gravitationally direct printing fluid to the downwardly-extending well.

51. (Original) A method of delivering a printing fluid, comprising:
holding a free volume of printing fluid in a reservoir that includes a fluid
interface and a well positioned at a bottom of the reservoir when the reservoir is in a
seated orientation; and
drawing printing fluid via the fluid interface from the well such that fluid may be
drawn until the reservoir is more than 90% empty.

52. (New) A printing-fluid container, comprising:
a well portion configured to provide a first degree of alignment;
a front face configured to provide a second degree of alignment; and
an alignment pocket configured to provide a third degree of alignment.

53. (New) The printing-fluid container of claim 52, further comprising a
keying pocket providing a fourth degree of alignment.

54. (New) The printing-fluid container of claim 52, wherein the third degree
of alignment is more precise than the second degree of alignment, and wherein the
second degree of alignment is more precise than the first degree of alignment.